1. (Currently amended) A computer peripheral comprising:

a peripheral housing for containing only two normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at a checkout station including a receipt printer and a bar code reader; and

control circuitry in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data reflecting a sale of products between the printer and a separately housed controlling transaction computer at the checkout station and bar code data from the products between the bar code reader and the separately housed controlling transaction computer over a single cable during ~~a~~ the sale of the products completed by the transaction computer.

2. (Original) The peripheral of claim 1, wherein the bar code reader comprises an imaging scanner.

3. (Original) The peripheral of claim 2, wherein the imaging scanner comprises a charge coupled device scanner.

4. (Original) The peripheral of claim 1, wherein the bar code reader comprises a presentation scanner.

5. (Previously presented) The peripheral of claim 1, wherein the housing was originally designed to only contain the printer, and wherein the bar code reader is located in a position in the housing that does not interfere with operation of the printer.

6. (Original) The peripheral of claim 1, wherein the control circuitry comprises a universal serial bus hub.

7. (Currently amended) A computer peripheral comprising:

a peripheral housing for containing only two normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at a checkout station including a universal serial bus receipt printer and a universal serial bus charge coupled device scanner, wherein the scanner functions as a presentation scanner and is located in a position in the housing that does not interfere with operation of the receipt printer; and

a universal serial bus hub in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data reflecting a sale of products between the printer and a separately housed controlling transaction computer at the checkout station and bar code data from the products between the bar code reader and the separately housed controlling transaction computer

over a single cable during ~~a~~ the sale of the products completed by the transaction computer.

8. (Currently amended) A transaction system comprising:

a controlling transaction computer at a checkout station, including a universal serial bus controller; and

a computer peripheral at the checkout station and separately housed from the controlling transaction computer including

a peripheral housing for containing only two normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at the checkout station including a universal serial bus receipt printer and a universal serial bus charge coupled device scanner, wherein the scanner functions as a presentation scanner and is located in a position in the housing that does not interfere with operation of the receipt printer; and

a universal serial bus hub in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data reflecting a sale of products between the printer and the transaction computer and bar code data from the products between the bar code reader and the transaction computer over a single cable between the universal serial bus hub and the universal serial bus controller during ~~a~~ the sale of the products completed by the transaction computer.

9. (New) A computer peripheral comprising:

a peripheral housing containing normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at a checkout station including an impact printer, a magnetic ink character reader, a receipt printer, and a bar code reader; and

control circuitry in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data reflecting a sale of products between the printer and a separately housed controlling transaction computer at the checkout station and bar code data from the products between the bar code reader and the separately housed controlling transaction computer over a single cable, for operating the magnetic ink character reader to read magnetic ink characters on checks, for operating the impact printer to print information on the checks during the sale of the products completed by the transaction computer.

10. (New) A computer peripheral comprising:

a peripheral housing containing normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at a checkout station including a receipt printer and a bar code reader;

wherein the housing includes a generally vertical front surface containing an aperture and wherein the barcode reader

is located within the housing between the receipt printer and the aperture; and

control circuitry in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data reflecting a sale of products between the printer and a separately housed controlling transaction computer at the checkout station and bar code data from the products between the bar code reader and the separately housed controlling transaction computer over a single cable during the sale of the products completed by the transaction computer.